

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01

DRC-01 /193 W

----- 064181

R 071346Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5292

INFO AMEMBASSY BERNE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBSSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

/AMMBASSY VIENNA 2125

USEC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EC, ETRD, EFTA

SUBJECT: EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN

REF: (A) STATE 233291 (B) US MISSION GENEVA 6422

1. EMBASSY OFFICER CALLED ON MFA OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR MULTILATERAL

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ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (O'CORNESSE) DECEMBER 6 TO EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE

U.S. ATTACHES TO FAVORABLE DECISION BY GATT COUNCIL
REGARDING SETTING UP OF GENERAL WORKING PARTY ON RULES OF ORIGIN.
PARAGRAHS 1(A) AND (B) OF REF (A) WERE DRAWN ON IN DETAIL AND
REFERENCE WAS MADE TO POSTPONEMENT OF FURTHER MEETINGS OF EC/NORWAY
WP PENDING VERDITAS REPORTED IN REF (B).

2. O'CORNESSE REGISTERED NO EMOTION CONCERNING POSSIBLE U.S. OPTIONS
(REF A, PAA 1 B) IF GATT COUNCIL TURNS DOWN U.S. REQUEST, MERELY
COMMENTING THAT ENTIRE PROBLEM WAS BEING GREATLY EXAGGERATED
AND POLITICIZED AS HAD HAPPENED BEFORE WITH OTHER TRADE MATTERS IN
EC-GATT CONTEXT. SURPRISINGLY ENOUGH HE DID NOT TAKE STANDARD
FRENCH LINE THAT GO BELIEVES RULES OF ORIGIN PROVISIONS SHOULD BE
AS RESTRICTIVE AS POSSIBLE BUT INSTEAD TOOK TACK OF QUESTIONING
CONVENTIONAL WISDOM THAT EC RULES WERE ACTUALLY MORE RESTRICTIVE TO
TRADE THAN THOSE OF EFTA. HE CLAIMED THIS HAD NOT BEEN PROVEN BY
ANY EXPERT AND COULD ONLY BE DETERMINED BY PRODUCT-BY-PRODUCT,
CASE-BY-CASE ANALYSIS. HE WAS ADVISED U.S. EXPERTS EVIDENTLY DID
NOT SHARE HIS VIEWS.

3. IN CONCLUDING O'CORNESSE SAID HE DID NOT ENVISAGE CHANGE IN
NEGATIVE STANCE OF FRANCE AND/OR EC COMMISSION VIS--VIS
ESTABLISHMENT OF GENERAL WP IN GATT FOR RULES OF ORIGIN AND COULD
GIVE US NO ENCOURAGEMENT THAT THERE WOULD BE A VOLTE-FACE.
IRWIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: TRADE LAW, TRADE CONTROLS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
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Draft Date: 07 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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